



### Vice-Chancellor's foreword

Macquarie University occupies a unique space in public life. The University serves as a conduit between knowledge and endeavour, helping to connect people and aspirations, and to increase the effectiveness and reach of our efforts and those of our partners.

Our University: A Framing of Futures, the framework built to guide our work over a decade or more, identifies hearing as a remarkable field of endeavour for Macquarie a field in which we are uniquely qualified.

The Hearing Strategy 2030 provides a scaffold for our current work in hearing and will drive our future areas of emphasis. It provides the best possible opportunity for Macquarie to transform hearing health and claim global eminence as we further develop our innovation and creativity in addressing these complex challenges.

This work draws together defining features of the Macquarie story, from our dedicated staff and passionate students to our inspirational partners. It establishes shared goals for the work we do, and seeks to embody the highest of standards, principles and behaviours. This affirmation of direction moves us ever closer to securing better hearing for the countless people in Australia and around the world whose loss of hearing affects their work productivity, their professional and social relationships and, most importantly, their happiness in a hearing world.

I am proud of the Macquarie University Hearing Strategy 2030 and all that it represents – I am pleased to commend this strategy to all.

**Professor S Bruce Dowton** 

VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT

Macquarie University Hearing

Hearing is fundamental to our experience of the world. It influences our lives, choices and communities. It touches critical issues of wellbeing, affecting our physical, mental and cognitive health, and our sense of identity and social inclusion.

Hearing loss is progressive, cumulative and, in most cases, irreversible. Yet, it can be effectively managed, treated and, in many cases, prevented.

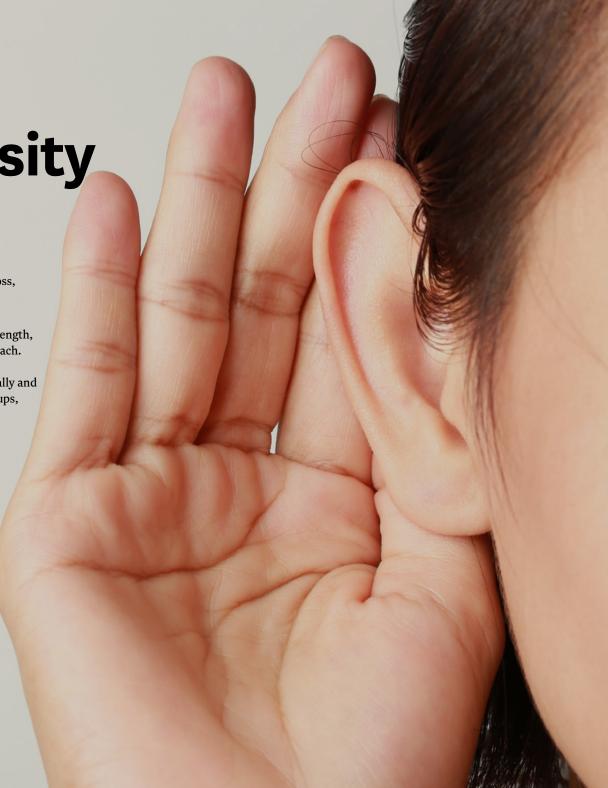
The majority of Australians will experience hearing loss over their life course. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experience middle-ear disease at a rate the World Health Organization has called a 'massive public health problem'.

Hearing loss is the most common sensory deficit and the second biggest factor contributing to the global burden of disease. According to the World Health Organization, 466 million people worldwide live with disabling hearing loss. Without intervention, it is estimated to be more than 900 million people by 2050.

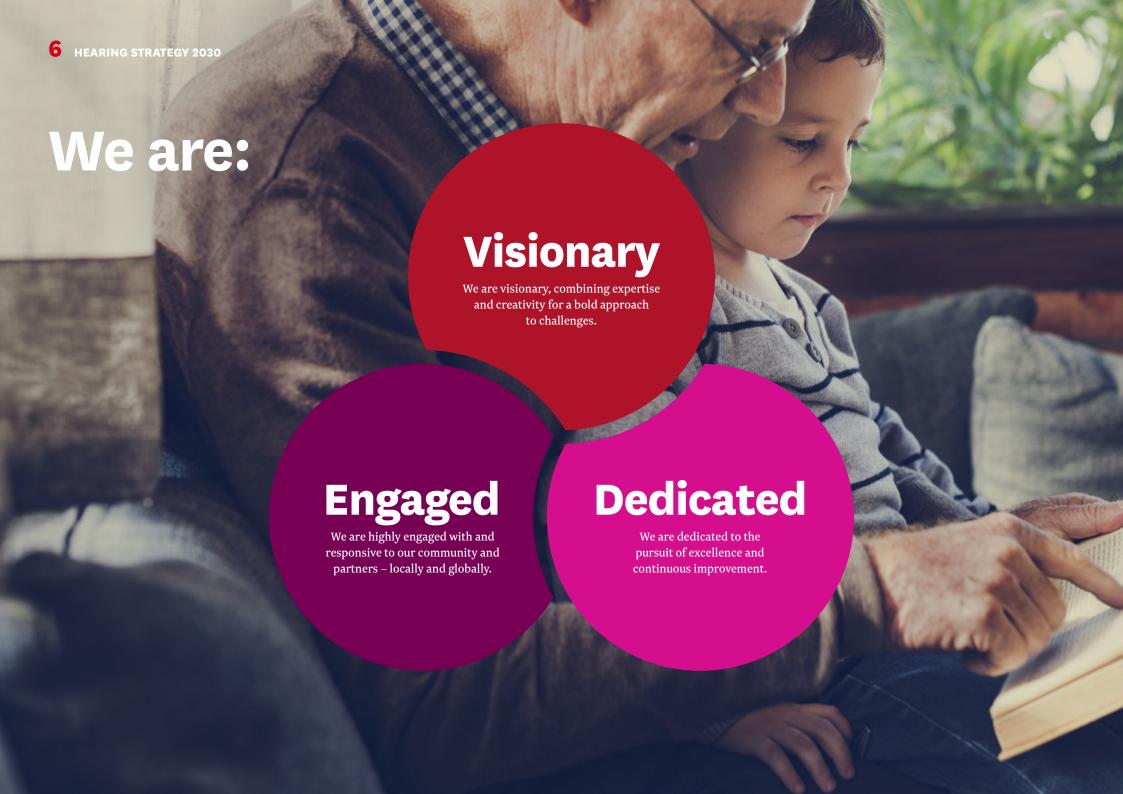
We need to act to improve the lives and wellbeing of those affected by hearing loss, and their families and communities, both now and in the future.

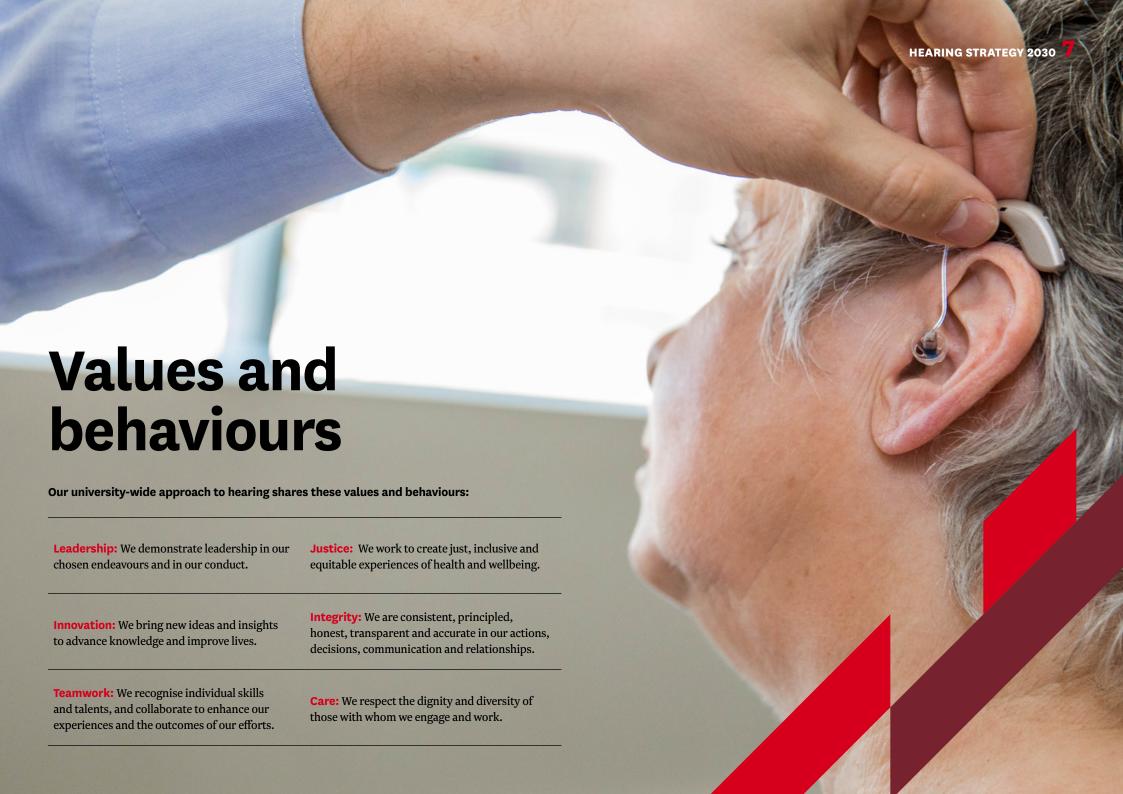
At Macquarie, we combine academic strength, clinical expertise, and a visionary approach. We value our deep connections with our partners across the hearing domain locally and globally, encompassing community groups, businesses and government bodies.

Working together, we seek to transform hearing health.









Pioneering innovative solutions

**Conducting** world-leading research

**Delivering** excellence in education

**Embodying** best practice

**Adopting** a university-wide approach

Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

Science and Engineering

Arts

Business

Offices

## Pioneering innovative solutions

Advance innovative solutions using translational pathways to create impact locally and globally.

With recognised strengths in research, education and clinical services, Macquarie University is uniquely placed to lead the transformation of hearing health at a global level.

Through our pioneering approach to partnership, centred on the Australian Hearing Hub, we will create an innovative ecosystem for hearing health to the benefit of millions of people worldwide living with hearing loss, and their families and societies.

- **1.1** Establish translational pathways in hearing that encompass health, social, commercial and policy paths to impact for the betterment of individuals and communities.
- **1.2** Explore and create new methods, technologies and processes to accelerate innovation, connect bodies of knowledge (including data resources), and translate academic research into high-impact outcomes.
- **1.3** Develop and uphold the highest standards of clinical services, models of care and ethical practice in hearing health.
- **1.4** Contribute to raising awareness of hearing health and wellbeing, and demonstrate leadership around the development of public policy and regulations to improve health and social outcomes.
- **1.5** Engage and collaborate with research and commercial partners, government and community groups, to deliver new approaches and solutions to challenges in hearing health.

# Conducting world-leading research

Generate and connect knowledge to outcomes for the greatest impact and benefit to our world.

At Macquarie University we connect brain and language sciences with expertise in big data and health systems, machine learning, and biomedical engineering to transform our understanding of hearing.

We will inspire a global network of research partners, collaborating disciplines, and communities to redefine the limits of what we know and to generate research with lasting impact on hearing health.

- **2.1** Conduct and deliver world-leading research to achieve the goals and targets in the Macquarie University Strategic Research Framework 2015–2024.
- **2.2** Leverage and expand current capabilities to grow capacity in hearing and hearing-related research fields.
- **2.3** Expand Macquarie University's research training cohort, including by offering interdisciplinary projects and opportunities for engagement with community and commercial partners.
- **2.4** Facilitate interdisciplinary research, and create an inclusive research culture, fully engaged with and responsive to the needs of students, researchers, partners, collaborators, service users and our communities.
- **2.5** Cultivate and maintain active engagement with commercial and community partners to facilitate the translation of excellent research into impactful outcomes.
- **2.6** Develop and sustain strategic partnerships with research institutions, locally and globally, to extend our research impact.



# Delivering excellence in education

Design and deliver leading education programs that are engaged with the current and future needs of our students and societies.

Engaging leading practitioners and experts, Macquarie University delivers world-class education for clinicians, technologists, and researchers to transform their understanding of hearing and hearing health.

We will lead embedded and culturally aware education programs, empowering healthcare professionals, individuals and communities to reduce the global burden of hearing loss.

- **3.1** Design and implement innovative and research-enriched programs that meet the current and long-term educational needs of our students.
- **3.2** Explore opportunities for multidisciplinary education programs to provide a distinctive approach to hearing education.
- 3.3 Cultivate and maintain active engagement and collaboration with commercial and community partners to enhance educational outcomes and employability for our graduates and benefits to our societies.
- **3.4** Explore relevant and creative education models and opportunities that engage with priority communities.
- **3.5** Expand education and training opportunities to reach new audiences and influence hearing-related policy and practice.

### **Embodying best practice**

Our global leadership in hearing is derived from excellence in research, education, and engagement, and how we uphold standards of best practice.

Our commitment to best practice is embedded in our activities and in our conduct. Our values of justice, integrity and care inform the design of our physical environment, our relationships with our colleagues and partners and how we facilitate student success.

We will manifest our leadership in hearing – so you can hear the difference at Macquarie University.

- **4.1** Provide the Macquarie University community with an equitable and accessible built environment that enables exceptional learning, teaching, research and clinical care.
- **4.2** Provide services, resources and programs to enable full participation by our students, staff and community, including information, data, communications, clinical services and events that are accessible to a wide range of people from diverse communities.
- **4.3** Design and build innovative programs for Macquarie University staff and students that promote improved hearing health.
- **4.4** Seek out, and partner with, relevant organisations, including peak bodies and companies, that facilitate our embodiment of best practice.
- **4.5** Undertake reflective practice to facilitate continuous improvement.

### Adopting a university-wide approach

Connect and leverage expertise across Macquarie University to adopt an integrated approach to hearing.

Adopting a university-wide approach, we seek involvement and participation from every part of Macquarie University to progress hearing as a priority field of endeavour.

We will extend our university-wide collaboration to partners at a global level to generate a pioneering model for solving complex problems.

- **5.1** Develop a strategy that allows Macquarie University to contribute to a national and global hearing agenda.
- **5.2** Facilitate broad involvement in Macquarie University Hearing through internal collaboration frameworks and structures.
- **5.3** Build a framework for delivery and accountability, and ensure ongoing alignment with Macquarie University's strategic priorities.
- **5.4** Collaborate to improve the way we document, tell and showcase the stories associated with hearing activities at Macquarie University to ensure it is a distinctive part of our identity.
- **5.5** Embed the principles of service, engagement, innovation and excellence across Macquarie University Hearing.



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